SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

# ADDENDUM TO THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR REACH 6 OF THE UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT



**June 2006**

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# ADDENDUM TO THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR REACH 6 OF THE UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

## GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION for REACH 6 OF THE UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT PROJECT NO. 26154002


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# 1. BACKGROUND

This Addendum is intended to address the proposed activities associated with geotechnical investigations of Reach 6 of the Upper Guadalupe River Flood Control Project (Project) area, and amend the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)[1] for the Project. The need for geotechnical investigations was not identified in the FEIR. Additionally, specific locations and methods about these activities have only recently become available, allowing an evaluation of their potential to affect the environment. This Addendum has been prepared to document and discuss new information specific to the geotechnical investigation and the potential environmental impacts of those activities.

The proposed geotechnical investigation would provide detailed information about the geology critical to the design of the bypass and bridge improvement structures. All proposed activities occur within the area defined by the original project, see **Figure 1**. Detailed descriptions of the proposed geotechnical investigation activities, including the approximate locations of various activities, are shown below and in the attached figures. Further details about the environmental setting can be found in the FEIR cited above.

# 2. CEQA CONSIDERATIONS

Once the CEQA review for a project has been conducted and the lead agency has adopted its findings with respect to impacts and proposed mitigations, these decisions need no additional review per CEQA. The lead agency's role has been fulfilled unless there are changes to the project and further actions are necessary that involve the exercise of the lead agency's discretion regarding the project.

When there are changes to a project, and the lead agency is taking a discretionary action, CEQA provides various levels of documentation to indicate that the lead agency has adequately considered the changes to the project in making its decisions. The appropriate level of review is based on whether changes to the project, or to project circumstances, or resulting from new information not known at the time of approval of the original project, create new significant effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects.

If one or more of the above criteria is met, then a subsequent document is required in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15162. If none of the above conditions result in the creation or increase of a significant impact, then an Addendum should be prepared per CEQA Guidelines §15164.

The proposed project changes meet the criteria of "minor changes or additions" for an Addendum. The changes detail the locations and methods by which the geotechnical investigation will be carried out, allowing evaluation of impacts not possible at the time of the FEIR. The changes result in no new impacts nor increase the severity of previously identified impacts. There are no significant changes to the project circumstances.

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1 Board Resolution No. 2001-51, August 15, 2001; *RESOLUTION NO. 2001-51 ADOPTING CERTAIN FINDINGS FOR FLOOD CONTROL WORK ON GUADALUPE RIVER FROM HIGHWAY 101 TO INTERSTATE 880 AND INTERSTATE 280 TO BLOSSOM HILL ROAD.*

The modifications do not change the findings or the Mitigation Monitoring Plan (MMP) adopted by the Board with certification of the FEIR. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the proposed activities where they are different from those identified in the FEIR (see Attachment A).

## 3. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

The FEIR Project Description is amended to include the investigative and data gathering activities: Geotechnical investigation activities to be carried out that were not anticipated, and therefore not described, in the 1999 FEIR, include:

- Boring locations for the bypass channel alignment and bridge structure would be field marked;
- Prior to conducting the field exploration, Underground Service Alert (USA) and a private utility locator (if necessary) would be contacted to check the proposed boring locations for underground utilities;
- The necessary permits from the District for drilling exploratory borings and installing piezometers would be obtained;
- Several borings would be drilled for the bypass channel from the existing ground surface to a depth of approximately 45 feet (with an estimate of 2 to 3 borings per day); some of which would be converted into stand-pipe piezometers to monitor groundwater levels;
- Other borings would be drilled at the location of the bridge structure to be improved; their depth would extend to a depth of approximately 100 feet (with an estimate of 1 boring per day); likely only one of the deep borings would be converted into a stand-pipe piezometer to monitor groundwater levels;
- The soils encountered would be logged, and soil samples at approximately 1, 3, 5, 10 and every 5 feet thereafter below existing ground surface or at significant changes in lithology would be obtained for further visual classification and laboratory testing:
    - soil sampling types would include Standard Penetration Test, California Modified, and Shelby tube samples as appropriate; and
    - all samples for geotechnical testing would be placed in tightly sealed plastic bags or brass liners; then
- Upon completion of the borings, the drilling contractor would backfill the holes with neat cement grout;
- and associated support, e.g., vehicle access, minor excavation and temporary on-site soil stockpiling, operation of small pumps.

## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

FEIR Sections: Air Quality, Biological Resources (Wildlife), Hazardous Materials, Water Quality, Noise, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities are revised to incorporate the geotechnical investigation activities and any changes to the impacts resulting from these additional activities.

## AIR QUALITY

The investigation may require temporary soil-stockpiling activities associated with investigative borings which could lead to entrainment of dust.

- The Addendum specifies additional BMPs per Attachment A to ensure that impacts to air quality would be insignificant; and
- Consistent with the BMPs selected for incorporation into the proposed project (see Attachment A), the drilling contractor would be advised to temporarily store residual soil and water, derived from the investigation during drilling activities, in 55-gallon steel drums at a designated location determined by District staff.

## BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (WILDLIFE)

Biological resources that could be affected by proposed activities include potential impacts to protected migratory bird species.

- The Addendum specifies additional BMPs per Attachment A to ensure that impacts to migratory birds would be insignificant.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous materials could be encountered in the course of carrying out the investigative borings, soil sampling, storage and transport.

- The Addendum specifies additional BMPs per Attachment A to ensure that impacts from exposure to hazardous materials (if any) would be insignificant; and
- Consistent with the BMPs selected for incorporation into the proposed project (see Attachment A), the drilling contractor would be advised to temporarily store residual soil and water, derived from the investigation during drilling activities, in 55-gallon steel drums at a designated location determined by District staff.

## WATER QUALITY

The investigation may require temporary soil-stockpiling of spoil materials associated with borings that could lead to sediment contamination of adjacent river waters.

- The Addendum specifies additional BMPs per Attachment A to ensure that impacts to water quality (if any) would be insignificant; and
- Consistent with the BMPs selected for incorporation into the proposed project (see Attachment A), the drilling contractor would be advised to temporarily store residual soil and water, derived from the investigation during drilling activities, in 55-gallon steel drums at a designated location determined by District staff.

## NOISE

The investigation would involve the use of drilling equipment at each of several boring locations, albeit for relatively short terms (see Project Description, above), not described in the FEIR. These activities would generate additional noise.

- The Addendum specifies additional BMPs per Attachment A to ensure that impacts from noise would be insignificant.

### TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC

The investigation would involve the use of drilling equipment at each of several boring locations, albeit for relatively short terms (see Project Description, above), not described in the FEIR. These activities likely would result in minor traffic disruption.

- The Addendum specifies additional BMPs per Attachment A to ensure that impacts to traffic would be insignificant.

### UTILITIES

The investigation would require prior location of underground utilities to assure no impacts would result; prior location of underground utilities is part of the proposed project's scope. Additionally, the activities would require several contractor staff and the concomitant need for sanitary, septic and solid waste management; therefore, additional BMPs have been specified to assure that no impacts would result from a lack of such facilities and management.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Activities associated with the proposed geotechnical investigation would not create new significant environmental impacts nor increase the severity of impacts beyond that identified in the certified 1999 FEIR. The SCVWD and its contractors would incorporate BMPs (see Attachment A) into the project design and project contract specifications.

These changes would create no new impacts nor increase the severity of previously identified impacts. There would be no significant changes to the project circumstances, and no new information is anticipated that would alter the previous CEQA findings or the MMP.

## Attachment A

## Best Management Practices Incorporated into the Geotechnical Investigation for Reach 6 of the Upper Guadalupe River Flood Control Project

### Air Quality

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| **AQ-1**<br><br>**BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OPTIONAL DUST CONTROL MEASURES**<br><br>**(Individual Optional control measures may be incorporated, as appropriate)** | Implement appropriate Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Optional Control Measures for construction emissions of $PM_{10}$ at all construction sites. BAAQMD Optional Control Measures are strongly encouraged at construction sites that are large in area, located near sensitive receptors, or which for any other reason may warrant additional emissions reductions. Current measures stipulated by the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines include the following (BAAQMD 1999):<br>1. Active areas shall be watered at least twice per day unless soils are already sufficiently moist to avoid dust. The amount of water must be controlled so that runoff from the site does not occur, yet dust control is achieved.<br>2. Trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials shall be covered or shall maintain at least two feet of freeboard.<br>3. Unpaved access roads, parking areas and staging areas at construction sites shall be paved, watered three times daily, or non-toxic soil stabilizers shall be applied to control dust generation.<br>4. Paved site access roads, parking areas, and staging areas shall be swept daily (with vacuum-powered street sweepers).<br>5. Paved public streets shall be swept (with vacuum-powered street sweepers) if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved surfaces. |

### Biological Resources (Wildlife)

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| **BI-11**<br><br>**MIGRATORY BIRD SURVEYS** | Migratory bird surveys will be performed prior to any project-related activity that could pose the potential to affect migratory birds. Inactive bird nests may be removed, with the exception of raptor nests.<br>No birds, nests with eggs, or nests with hatchlings shall be disturbed. |

## Water Quality and Hazardous Materials

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| **HM-9**<br><br>**VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT CLEANING** | Vehicles shall be washed only at the approved area in the corporation yard. No washing of vehicles shall occur at job sites. |
| **HM-10**<br><br>**VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT FUELING** | No fueling shall be done in a waterway or immediate flood plain, unless equipment stationed in these locations is not readily relocated (i.e., pumps, generators).<br>1. For stationary equipment that must be fueled on-site, containment shall be provided in such a manner that any accidental spill of fuel shall not be able to enter the water or contaminate sediments that may come in contact with water.<br>2. Any equipment that is readily moved out of the waterway shall not be fueled in the waterway or immediate flood plain.<br>3. All fueling done at the job site shall provide containment to the degree that any spill shall be unable to enter any waterway or damage riparian vegetation. |
| **HM-11**<br><br>**VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE** | No equipment servicing shall be done in a stream channel or immediate flood plain, unless equipment stationed in these locations cannot be readily relocated (i.e., pumps, generators).<br>1. Any equipment that can be readily moved out of the channel shall not be serviced in the channel or immediate flood plain.<br>2. All servicing of equipment done at the job site shall provide containment to the degree that any spill shall be unable to enter any channel or damage stream vegetation.<br>3. If emergency repairs are required in the field, only those repairs necessary to move equipment to a more secure location shall be done in a channel or flood plain.<br>4. If emergency repairs are required, containment shall be provided equivalent to that done for fueling or servicing. |

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| **HM-12**<br><br>**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT** | Measures shall be implemented to ensure that hazardous materials are properly handled and the quality of water resources is protected by all reasonable means.<br>1. Prior to entering the work site, all field personnel shall know how to respond when toxic materials are discovered.<br>2. The discharge of any hazardous or non-hazardous waste as defined in Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations shall be conducted in accordance with applicable State and federal regulations. |
| **HM-13** | Prevent the accidental release of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, and non-storm drainage water. |

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| **SPILL PREVENTION** | 1. Field personnel shall be appropriately trained in spill prevention, hazardous material control, and clean-up of accidental spills.<br>2. No fueling, repair, cleaning, maintenance, or vehicle washing shall be performed in a creek channel or in areas at the top of a channel bank that may flow into a creek channel. |
| **HM-14**<br><br>**SPILL KIT LOCATION** | Spill prevention kits shall always be in close proximity when using hazardous materials (e.g., crew trucks and other logical locations).<br>1. Prior to entering the work site, all field personnel shall know the location of spill kits on crew trucks and at other locations within District facilities.<br>2. All field personnel shall be advised of these locations and trained in their appropriate use. |
| **WQ-4**<br><br>**HANDLE SEDIMENTS SO AS TO MINIMIZE WATER QUALITY IMPACTS** | Sediments shall be stored and transported in a manner that minimizes water quality impacts.<br>1. Wet sediments may be stockpiled outside of a live stream or may be stockpiled within a dewatered stream so water can drain or evaporate before removal.<br>2. This measure applies to saturated, not damp, sediments and depends upon the availability of a stockpile site.<br>3. For those stockpiles located outside the channel, water draining from them will not be allowed to flow back into the creek or into local storm drains that enter the creek, unless water quality protection measures recommended by the RWQCB are implemented.<br>4. Trucks may be lined with an impervious material (e.g. plastic), or the tail gate blocked with dry dirt or hay bales, for example, or trucks may drain excess water by slightly tilting their loads and allowing the water to drain out.<br>5. Water shall not drain directly into channels (outside of the work area) or onto public streets without providing water quality control measures.<br>6. Streets shall be cleared of mud and/or dirt by street sweeping (with a vacuum-powered street sweeper), as necessary, and not by hosing down the street. |

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| **WQ-5**<br><br>**SOIL STOCKPILES** | If soil is to be stockpiled, no run-off shall be allowed to flow to a creek. |
| **WQ-15**<br><br>**GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT** | If high levels of groundwater in a work area are encountered, the water is pumped out of the work site. If necessary to protect water quality, the water shall be directed into specifically constructed infiltration basins, into holding ponds, or onto areas with vegetation to remove sediment prior to the water re-entering a receiving water |

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| | body. Water pumped into vegetated areas shall be pumped in a manner that will not create erosion around vegetation. |
| **WQ-18**<br><br>**EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES** | Erosion control methods shall be used as appropriate during all phases of projects to control sediment and minimize water quality impacts. The District shall prevent erosion by using erosion control material according to manufacturer's specifications. All construction related erosion control methods shall be removed at the completion of the project. Appropriate measures include, but are not limited to, the following:<br>1. Silt Fences<br>2. Straw Bale Barriers<br>3. Brush or Rock Filters<br>4. Storm Drain Inlet Protection<br>5. Sediment Traps<br>6. Sediment Basins<br>7. Erosion Control Blankets and Mats<br>8. Soil Stabilization (i.e., tackified straw with seed, jute or geotextile blankets, etc.)<br>The Bay Area Stormwater Management Agency Association Flood Control Facility Maintenance BMP Manual provides guidance and specifications as to implementation of erosion control measures (BASMAA 2000a). |

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| **WQ-37**<br><br>**WELL OR EXPLORATORY BORING MATERIALS MANAGEMENT** | All materials or waters generated during drilling, well or exploratory boring construction, well development, pump testing, or other activities associated with wells or exploratory borings, will be safely handled, properly managed, and disposed of according to all applicable federal, state, and local statutes regulating such. In no case shall these materials and/or waters be allowed to enter, or potentially enter, on- or off-site storm sewers, dry wells, or waterways. Such materials/waters must not be allowed to move off the property where the work is being completed. |
| **WQ-38**<br><br>**WELL OR EXPLORATORY BORING CONTAMINANT PROTECTION** | Any substances or materials that may degrade groundwater quality will not be allowed to enter any well or boring. Lubricants used on drill bits, drill pipe, or tremie pipe shall not be comprised of oily or greasy substances or other materials that may degrade groundwater quality.<br>Well openings or entrances will be sealed or secured in such a way as to prevent the introduction of contaminants. |

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| **WQ-39**<br><br>**EXPLORATORY BORING DESTRUCTION** | All borings should be backfilled within 24 hours of termination of testing. Borings shall not be left in such a condition as to allow for the introduction of surface waters or foreign materials into them. Borings shall be secured such that they do not endanger public health.<br><br>All borings must be properly destroyed by backfilling with acceptable sealing materials. Acceptable sealing materials are:<br><br>1. 27 sack neat cement (four 94-pound bags/55-gallon drum),<br><br>2. 10 sack cement sand grout, or<br><br>3. hydrated high solids 20 percent bentonite slurry.<br><br>No soil cuttings may be used for backfilling boreholes. No bentonite chips or pellets may be used to backfill borings.<br><br>Free fall of sealing material will not be allowed if greater than 30 feet or if more than 3 feet of standing water exists in borehole. A tremie pipe must be used to place the cement sealing material if exploratory boring is over 30 feet deep or if more than 3 feet of standing water exists in borehole. Exploratory borings located in Geologic Setting Zone 4 (bedrock) may be backfilled with borehole cuttings from total depth of the boring up to a depth of 50 feet from the surface grade. The top 50 feet of the borehole must be backfilled with above described sealing materials. |

**Noise**

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| **NO-1**<br><br>**NOISE POLLUTION** | Noise pollution due to construction activities will be kept as low as possible. In no case shall noise levels exceed the maximums of the local jurisdiction requirements. |
| **NO-2**<br><br>**RESIDENTIAL NOISE MANAGEMENT** | The District will implement practices that minimize disturbances to residential neighborhoods surrounding work sites.<br><br>1. In general, work will be conducted during normal working hours. Extending weekday hours and working weekends may be necessary to complete some projects.<br><br>2. Internal combustion engines will be equipped with adequate mufflers.<br><br>3. Excessive idling of vehicles will be prohibited.<br><br>4. All construction equipment will be equipped with manufacture's standard noise control devices.<br><br>5. The arrival and departure of trucks hauling material will be limited to the hours of construction.<br><br>6. The use of jake brakes is prohibited in residential areas. |

**Transportation/Traffic**

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| **TR-1**<br><br>**IMPLEMENT PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES** | Public safety measures shall be implemented as follows:<br>1. Construction signs shall be posted at job sites warning the public of construction work and to exercise caution.<br>2. When necessary, a trained flagger shall be provided for traffic control.<br>3. If needed, a lane shall be blocked off in accordance with applicable agency recommendations and approval to allow for trucks to pull into and out of the access points.<br>4. Where work is proposed adjacent to a recreational trail, warning signs shall be posted several feet beyond the limits of work.<br>5. Fencing, either the orange safety type or chain-link, shall be installed around project areas to keep the public out as necessary. |

**Utilities**

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| **UT-1**<br><br>**SANITARY/SEPTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT** | Temporary sanitary facilities shall be located on jobs that last multiple days. All temporary sanitary facilities shall be placed outside of the creek channel and flood plain and removed when no longer necessary. |
| **UT-2**<br><br>**WORK SITE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT** | Field personnel shall clean the work site before leaving by removing all litter and construction related materials. Field personnel shall be responsible for all debris incurred as a result of construction and for cleaning up dumped material. |